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Title: Regarding two-days nation wide strike by Trade Unions.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (GHATAL): Madam, I feel extremely honoured and I pay my respect to you for allowing me to raise this issue. I am referring to the two day general strike throughout the country by the workers of this country. All the trade unions are together. From INTUC to BMS, from AITUC to CITU all trade unions are together. There is no political division. All are together. We had been fighting for the minimum demands of the workers for the last three years. First demand of the workers today is to curb inflation. Our demand is to curb inflation because 94 per cent of the workers are unorganized. They do not get the benefit of Dearness Allowance. Our demand is काम का दाम दो. Minimum wages should be fixed at Rs. 10,000. Our demand is maternity benefit for the women; our demand is pension for all; our demand is that there should be welfare schemes for unorganized labour of the country; our demand is trade unions should be allowed to be registered. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (KOLKATA UTTAR): The total demands are reasonable but what is the necessity to have 48 hours strike? ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: Madam, we had been continuing the agitation for the last three years. On 28th September, last year, there was a general strike. The issue was raised in the Indian Labour Conference. The issue was raised in the Standing Committee of Labour. The issue was raised in Parliament. With your kind approval, there was a full discussion under Rule 193. What happened is that nobody talked with us. No Government talked with us. The Government has the time to talk to the tax evaders. The Government has time to talk to the delinquent corporates but trade union is untouchable. That is what forced us to go for 48 hours strike. Workers are the worst hit. They lost their jobs but the Government did not talk to us. What happened is that only a few days before the strike, the Prime Minister made a very innocent appeal through the Press. He talks to the trade union from the Press. Does he talk to the corporates from the Press? We are the Members of Parliament. He could have talked to us. He could have talked to the Leader of the Opposition. He never talked to us. Just an open appeal would have withdrawn the strike. After that, the Labour Minister called us for a discussion. He had nothing to offer.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA : So far as our demands are concerned, he had nothing to offer. We asked him what is that you are going to offer. Then the Prime Minister constitutes a four-man Committee. I am showing the apathy of the Government. The four-man Committee included the Finance Minister. He was not present in the discussion. Was it an act of arrogance or was it an act of ignoring the trade unions? Therefore, workers had gone on strike for two days. There has been a case of violence. We disapprove it absolutely. But it was peaceful throughout the country. Trade unions' right to go on strike is a constitutional right. Nobody can take away their right. After long months of waiting, we had gone for two day strike. The Government did not respond. Now the point is whether the country is going to be totally blind towards the 40 crore people of the country who produce the wealth. You do not produce the wealth; I do not produce the wealth. वह लोग बनाते हैं, हम लोग खाते हैं। वह लोग इमारत बनाते हैं, लेकिन बस्ती में रहते हैं, वे लोग काम करते हैं, लेकिन काम का दाम नहीं मिलता है। क्या यही हमारा हिन्दुस्तान है, यही हमारी आज़ादी है, यही हमारा आम आदमी है, यही है ह्यूमनिज्म? जो लोग करते हैं, उनको नहीं मिलता है, लेकिन जो लोग लूटते हैं, वे देश को चलाते हैं। Two day strike has ended, but the Government must respond. सरकार को बोलना चाहिए, बातचीत करनी चाहिए। ट्रेड यूनियन से बात करने के लिए यह इंकार नहीं कर सकते हैं। सरकार को यह मालूम होगा कि अगर ट्रेड यूनियन से बात नहीं करेंगे तो दोबारा हड़ताल होगी, दिल्ली में हड़ताल होगी, देश में हड़ताल होगी। We do not want strike. मैडम हम लोग हड़ताल नहीं चाहते हैं, लेकिन सरकार मजबूर करके हमें हड़ताल के रास्ते पर ले जा रही है।

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri M.B. Rajesh.

...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: You please send your slip. If you want to associate, you please send your slip.

...(*Interruptions*)

अध्यक्ष महोदया :

श्री हंसराज गं. अहीर,

श्री पी.के.िबजू,

श्री एम.बी.राजेश,

श्री शिवकुमार उदासी,

श्री रवीन्द्र कुमार पाण्डेय,

श्री मनोहर तिरकी,

श्री राकेश सिंह,

श्री राजेन्द्र अग्रवाल,

श्री पी. लिंगम,

श्री नरहरि महतो,

श्री नृपेन्द्र नाथ राय,

श्री पी. करुणाकरन,

शेख सैदुल हक एवं

श्री प्रशान्त कुमार मजूमदार स्वयं को श्री गुरुदास दासगुप्त जी के विषय के साथ संबद्ध करते हैं।

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri M.B. Rajesh is speaking. Let him speak.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): You allow him and allow me after that. ...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: I am allowing.

...(Interruptions)

अध्यक्ष महोदया : आप बैठ जाइए।

â€¦(व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदया : आप बोलिए।

â€¦(व्यवधान)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please send your slip.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Let him speak.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : I may be allowed to associate. I have given a notice for Adjournment Motion. Let me associate with this. ...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: If you are not allowing your own Member, then you speak.

...(Interruptions)

अध्यक्ष महोदया : आप बोलिए या उनको बोलने दीजिए, किसी को बोलने तो दीजिए।

â€¦(व्यवधान)

MADAM SPEAKER: Do you not want your Member to speak?

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : He will speak.

MADAM SPEAKER: Let him speak then.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : After him, you allow me also. I have also given a notice for Adjournment Motion. ...(Interruptions)

अध्यक्ष महोदया : आप पहले उनको बोलने दीजिए।

â€¦(व्यवधान)

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY : If he is allowed, I will also have to be allowed.